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CIVIL WAR ERA LETTERS WRITTEN TO ROSE C. RIDENOUR FROM VARIOUS CORRESPONDENTS, INCLUDING H. C. LUTZ, DAN H. HOLZCROSS, WILLIAM H. MOLIERE, AND OTHERS,

1863-1865

[Owned in the 1960s by the Washington County Historical Society, Salem, IN]

[Coped in the 1960s for the collection of the Allen County Public Library
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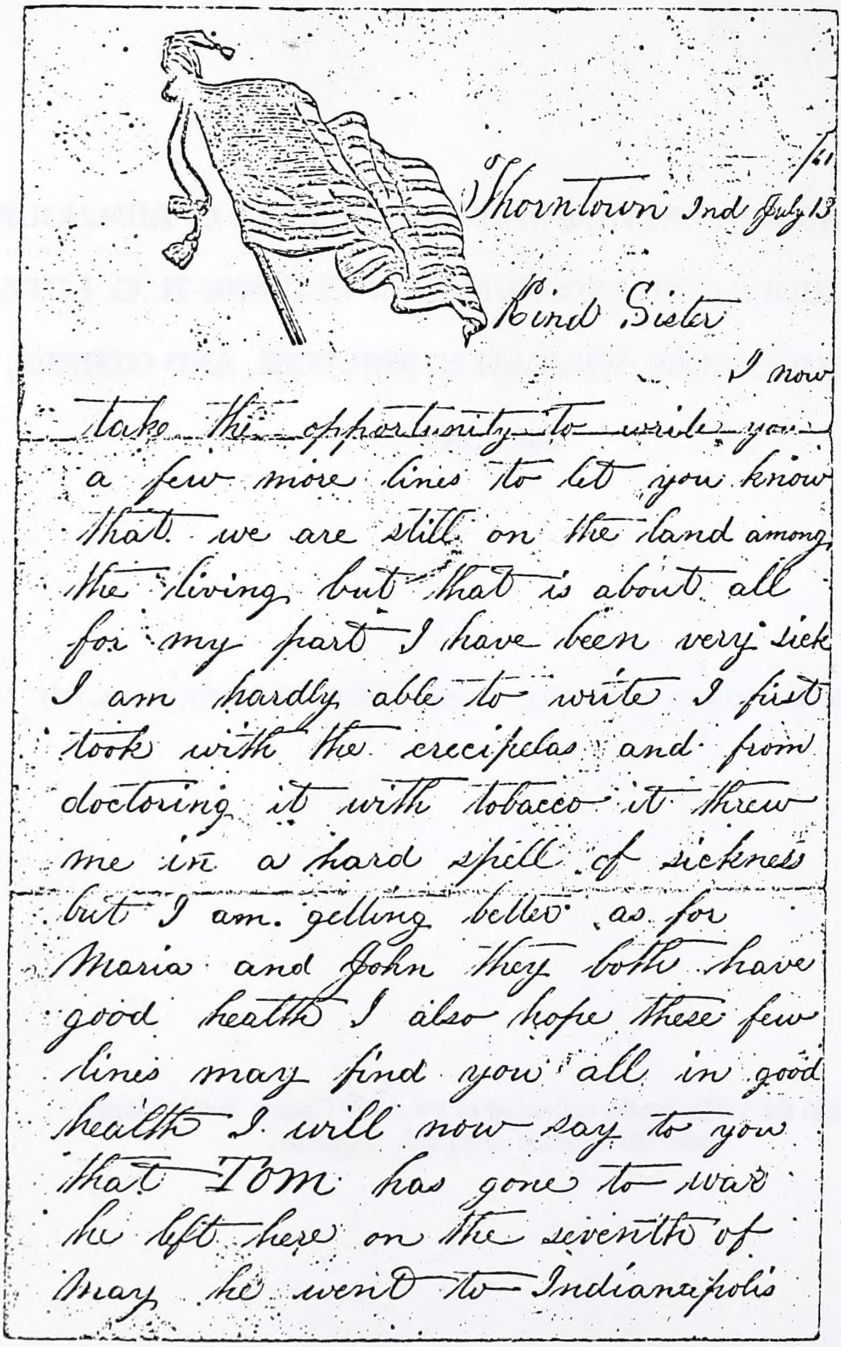

Thorntown Ind July 13/61

Kind Sister

I now take the opportunity to write you a few more lines to let you know that we are still on the land among the living but that is about all for my part I have been very sick I am hardly able to write I first took with the crecipelas and from doctoring it with tobacco it threw me in a hard spell of sickness but I am getting better as for Maria and John they both have good health I also hope these few lines may find you all in good health I will now say to you that TOM has gone to war he left here on the seventh of May he went to Indianapolis

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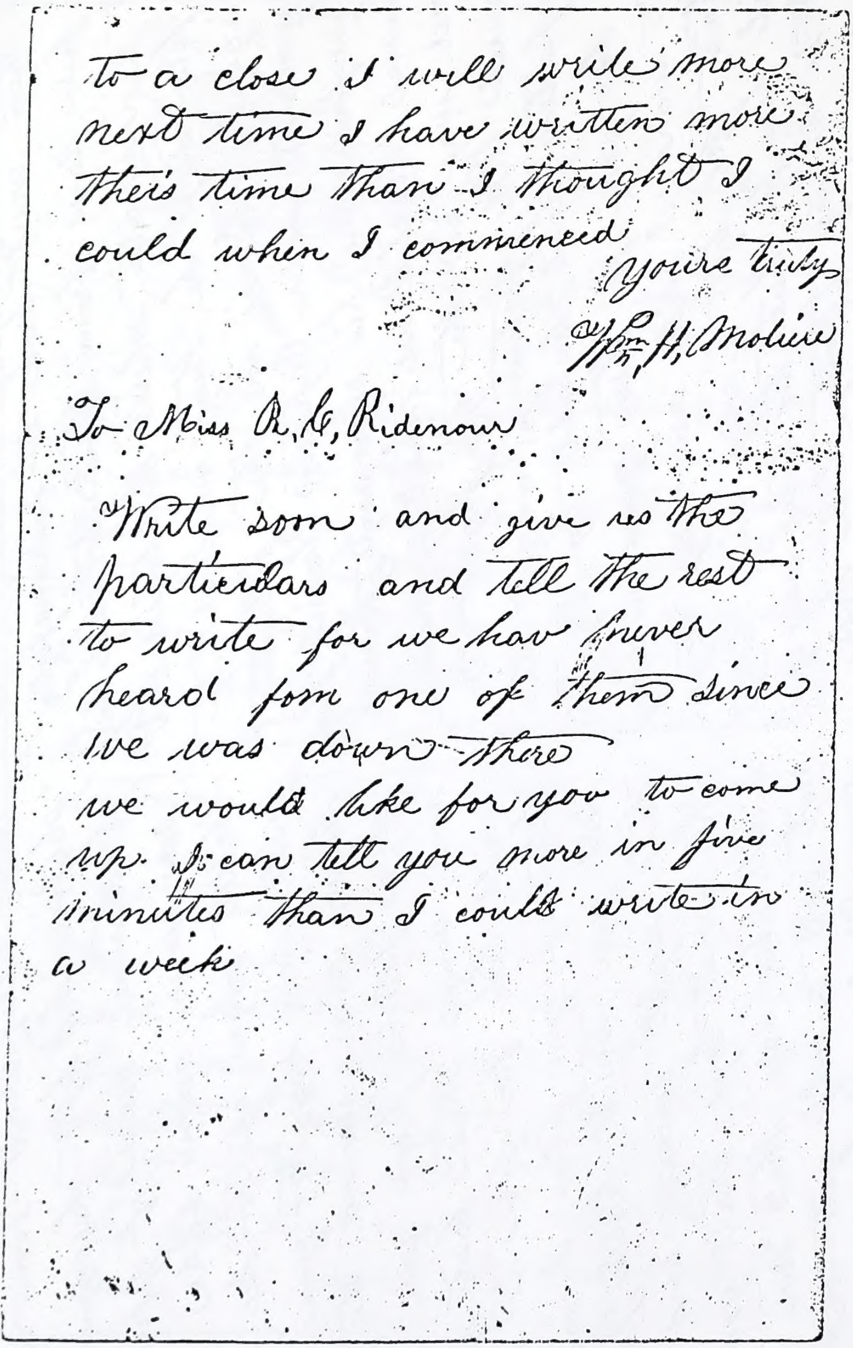
and camped a while he then went to Lafayette and camped a while he then went back to Indianapolis a few days from thence to camp clay at Cincinnati where he stayed but a few days he then marched to Virginia he is in the fifteenth regiment under Captain Lamb from Crawfordsville his regiment joined General Mcclelland last wednesday and was in the big fight at Laurel Hill yesterday we got the dispatch last knight by telegraph he has gone for three years or during the war I will now say to you that he left a very nice little Girl here for Kate to take care of it is a very pretty little babe it was born on the 15 of April Tom took care of her and paid her way until she got well she is now at work here in town getting along very well the babe is so fat that it can hardly see I will now tell you that Tom named it before he left he named it Roseann Catharine now if you want to see your name sake you had better come up to see us I will now say to you that we have never received the first scratch of a pen from you since we was down there last spring I would like for you to answer this letter if you pleas I will now tell you that little John can talk right smart and is one of the worst boys that you ever seen I will also say that our cow has not got a calf yet but we expect every day when she will have I will now give you a sketch of the times here times are very dull there is no work a going on and corn is worth 15 cts per bushel wheat 40 to 45 cts per bushel I must now bring my letter



to a close I will write more
next time I have written more
theis time than I thought I
could when I commenced
Youire truly
Wm H, Moline

To Miss R, C, Ridenour

Write soon and give us the
particulars and tell the rest
to write for we hav never
heard fom one of them since
we was down there
we would like for you to come
up. I can tell you more in five
minutes than I could write in
a week

Brandon Ohio Oct 11/66

Dear Friends

as I have a few leasure moments I will occupy them by writing once more to you. I have about come to the conclusion that you have all forgotten us I can hardly tell the time that we have got a letter from any of you I have written the last letter I dont know why it is that we can not have a more sociable correspondence than we do. I cant hardly think that Frenchmans folks have forgotten his girls I know that I think just as much of all of you as I ever did. I have been looking for the two or three last mails for a letter from some of you but have not seen it yet so I thoug

I would write to you this afternoon

Pa and Mother have gone to meeting, and Linda also Ada and I was at home

It has been quite a pleasant day but rather cool. I received a letter from Aunt Emma Richer last evening they are all well they live out in Delaware, Uncle Bill is building himself a new house

Wee have been expecting a sellar made last weeke this week the men is going to go to work to plaster the rest of our house. when it is done I will be so glad we want to get that done and a cistern dug this fall yet.

Aunt Rose I hope you have not gave up comming out to see us I do wish that you would come I wish grandma [illegible] with you do come.

There has been a great deal of sickness around here this fall there has three of the boys died that was in the Army Friends, both of Uncle Jessie Babbs boys died while they were gone I was called uppon last week to wait on the sick and just a week from that day they came for me and Linda to watch with the corpse it was Mrs Baxter and now the little baby they dont think will live

I wish that you was here now we would have such a nice time. Aunt Malinda McFarland and her little girl has came in about a month ago she is going to stay untill spring

what are all of the men doing about the Draft out here they have got our Township cleared by raising money, there was Daniel Wilsons name in our papers [illegible] suppose [illegible] he is Drafted

I would like to see Grandma so well I dont think that I would know her atall, and there is Uncle John and [illegible] why dont they write to [illegible] write and I will answer it [illegible]

letter Tell Aunt Ellen that I have written
the last letter to her, and have been looking
for an answer to it and her picture she
promised to send her. if I could [illegible]
O Aunt Anna you ought to be here this winter
to go to some of the parties we have such
nice times Linda and I was to one last
Tuesday evening all the host of [illegible] here
you would laugh once at [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] and anyone laughing all the time we
have got a quilt in if you had been here you could
help me to quilt it Aunt Mollie was
here yesterday helping me some you ought
to be here when we all getting together
Frank and Linda sends their love to all
of you and mine also I hope
you will write soon I will be pleased to answer
all of the letters that you will write
when you write send your photograph
and I will send mine soon as I get mine
tell Aunt Ellen
[illegible] write to me
from your [illegible]
Niece Miss Angie
Brickes

to Miss Anna

[illegible]

P.S. tell my [illegible]
[illegible] he would like
to hear from

Camp Owen June 12 1862
Ky Bowlen Green

kind and well respected
friend I set my self down
to drap a few lines to you
as Lieutenant was righting
to you to let you know how
I get along well rose I am well
~~well~~ and well satisfied and I
hope when these lines comes to
hand they may find you well
Rose I hav seen som curiosities
since I hav been in dixey I
can see more here in one day than
I could see if was to stay a
thousand years in warren county
well in the first place their is
plenty of negroes here and the
blackest ones I ever saw and as ugly
as the devil Rose I cant tell you
the particulars at present but
I will set down some of these days
and I will you a long letter I hav

to go on guard at twelve
oclock to night and I cant
right matter but I want you
to right to me and give me
all the news that you have of
importance I would like to
be out on Jordan to play a
game of euchre with you
we are camped near Bowlen
Green and a very nice country it
is to tell John that I have ben
cradling wheat so to day the
people have ben harvesting for
a week hear I dont Expect
I can help John Ridenour
Lucas this year as I did last
year but so it is I can do more
good fighting for his country than
I could to help him harvest I
must close right soon tell John
to right to me and Lewis hunt to and
must give my Respects all of the
folks I also send my Respects to you
Dan H. Holycross To Rose Ridenour
yours truly

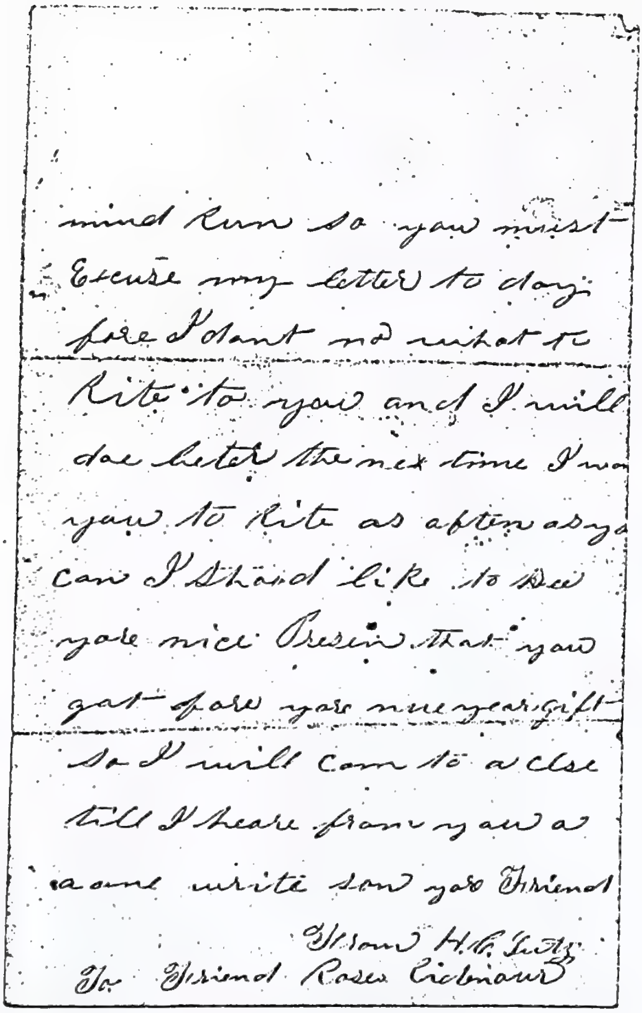
Jany the 3/1863

Murfeesboro Tennesee

Friend Rose I take the plase to ancer yore kind letter that I Recive from yow and I was glad to heare that yow was well it fond me well and in good spirit yow speak like yow hand a vary good time a Crismmus we haden a vary good time but we hall to past the time a way som haw and we trid to past it the best we cood we had a

Dusky dinch but it was falle
cook I shood like had ben
at hame to have som
fun as you say I hope it
want be long till we will
be thare to ingjoing som of
the plase that we once injoy
dose you spack of yore mind
a bin fare fram hame I noe
how it is to feale that way
and it hant ben long senc
I felt the same way today
I feal like I hant got a

frinds heare as at home but
I hope I have last nite wen
I Recive yore letter I was as
gilad to heare from you as
if I had a son the best
friend that I Evry had.
you dant no how muth
plase it is fare a Solder to
get a letter to heare from his
frinds that it may be the
last time we will heare
from Echer other fore we dait
no what minutte we will be
cald a way you not let yore



mind Run so yaw must
Excuse my letter to day
fore I dont no what to
Rite to yaw and I will
doe beter the nex time I wa
yaw to Rite as aften as ya
can I Shoud like to See
yare nice Presin that yaw
gat fare yare nue year gift
So I will com to a close
till I heare from yaw a
aane write son yare Friend

From H. C. Lutz
To Friend Rosa Liebman

March the 23 1863

Muirfeebaro Tenesee

Deare Rose it

tis plase I sett dow to anser your kind letter I Recive on 2d of this month it was in the army pas affice how you dreck it in Captin Sick name wen you rite to me dreck to the 72 Regment Ind It mita rialictire and it will come to me well Rose I was glad to heare from you and to heare that you was well it fand me well and in good spirit and I hope wen the fues lions

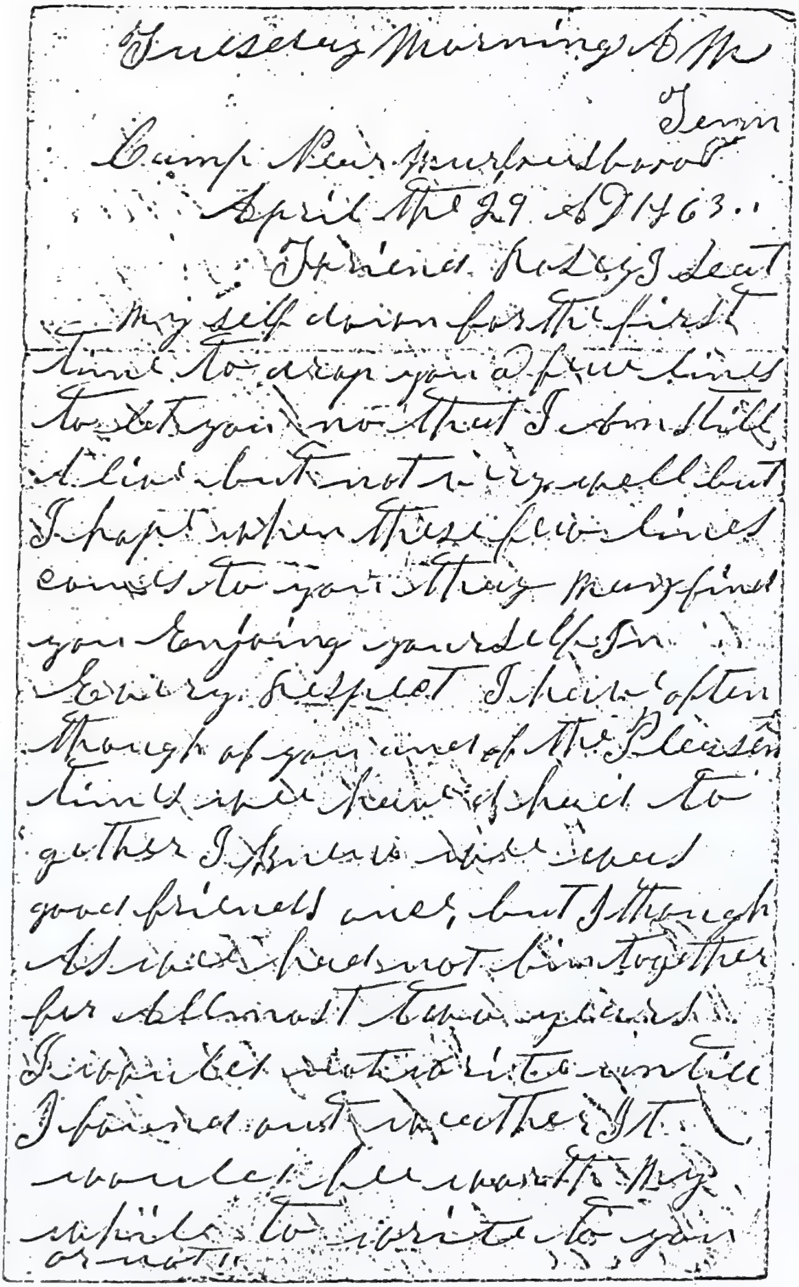
come to hand it may fine you
in the same helth I shood
like to be thare I cood
hete you and zare farna
a flaing lucky me zat
ards last night to Git
flaing Cards and we haf
to Git a flaing. Cards but
I am glad af it fore it
has ben Carien out to a
graate Extreme thare
mas a flaing all of the
times you sed you hand on
ben to a dans fore so
long you had most forgot
hate to dans you
dont no haw bad I
want to gae to a

a dans I would like
to gae to one so
bad tell the Pine Crick
ladys to dance onde fore
me men thare com out
to zare dance and I want
you to dance once fore me
and think fore me all
the times will you
are dancing it men
you see James Hunt tell
hime that to be a fraid
to ask peare fore
a spark tell him
to spunk up and
dae his duty and
mat be so bashful
well Rose I will

kraft to come to
a close sings saing Kiss
all of the yang one fore
me and save yare wen
I com back yaw see
Jane and yaw can
see hoodu I look
ware clon heare
I sint my prety
Grafile to heare to
day I will quit
till I heare from
yaw a gane write
soon so good By

From yare Friend Clay
to Friend Rose

men yaw rite a Gape tell
me wate to chere yare letterso to



Tuesday Morning A M

Camp Near Murfreesboro Tenn
April the 29 AD 1863..

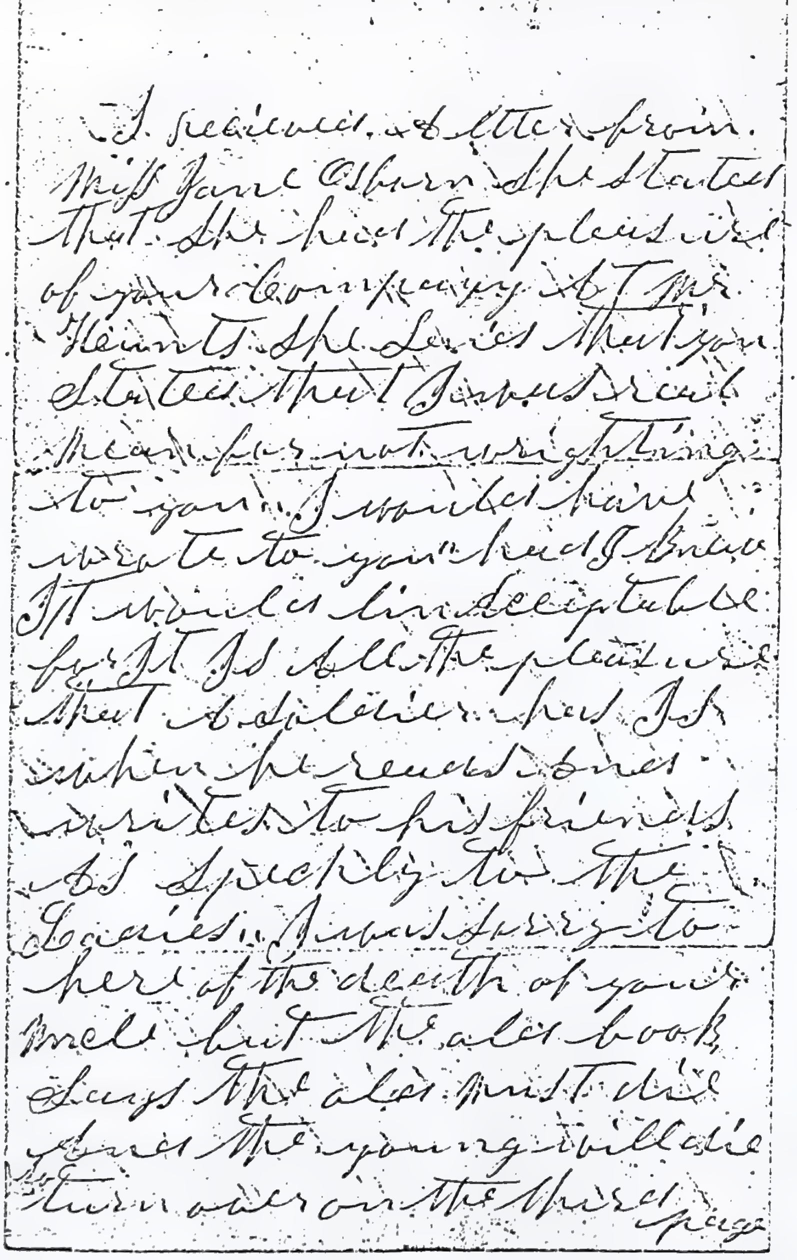
Friend Rosey I seat my self down for the first time to drop you a few lines to let you no that I am still alive but not very well but I hope when these few lines comes to you they may find you Enjoying yourself In Every Respect I have often though of you and of the Pleasent times we have had to gether I know we was good friends and, but I though As we had not bin together for Allmost two years I would not write untill I found out whether It would be worth my while to write to you or not..

It has bin Nine months
and one day since I
Inlisted as A Soldier
the first six Months My
health was good but since
that time My health has
bin very poor but I hope
I will get well In time
to come Rose I would
love to see you the best
In the world and have
A good secret chat with you
but I Am un Able to tell
when that will bee but
I hope It will not bee long
I dont think this war
can last more then one
year longer for I think
the Rebels Is Allmost
At the end of the rope
and more then they can stand

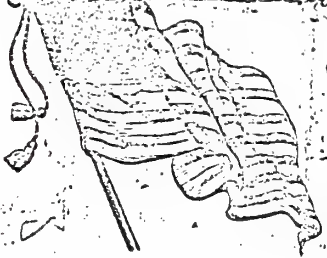
Rosey I guess I
will bring My short letter
to a close by saying
Excuse my poor wrighting
for I Am so nerves that
I cannot write hardly
Any. If you Answer these
few lines I will try and
and do better the next
time.

I Believe I will close
by saying Remember your
friend E J Holycross
To Miss Rose Ann Riverous

Direct your letters to
Murfreesboro Tennessee
company A 72 Regt Ind vols
In care of James L.
Dalton.
Write soon and give
all the news.



I receiued a letter from Miss Jane Osburn She Stated That She had The pleasure of your Company AT Mr Heints She Says That you Stated That I was real mean for not wrighting to you. I would have wrote to you had I knew IT would bin acceptable for IT Is All The pleasure That A Soldier has Is when he reads lines writen to his friends As Specily to The Ladies. I was sorry to here of the death of your uncle but The old book Says The old must die and The young will die turn over on the third page but I [illegible]



"Forever float that standard sheet,
Where breathes the foe, but falls before
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's Banner streaming o'er us

Lafayette Ina
Camp Tippicanoe
May the 23 / 1861

Dear Kind and moste affectionate friend it is with great pleasure that I again embrace the opportunity to rite to you to once more inform you that I have not forgoten you and that I never expect to as long as I live it is impossibel for me to express my feelings when I comence to rite to you it draws to my mind plain every thing that I ever hurd you say and every kind word that you spoke now rushes to my mind you may think that I am atrying to flatter you by saying

the truthe and iff you will allow
me the expression I will Just say
that I respect you as a friend and
to hope that you do allso the same
by me Rose I have not much time
to rite at present but I will
Just give you the peticulers
I will Just say that I have
Volenteered to protect the stars
and stripes of thiss glorious union
which I expect to do or dy in the
attempt I have volenteered for
one year we are at lafayett in camp
we have bin camping at Indinapolis
before we came here I saw lots
of the williamsport boys their
I do not no how long we will
stay here it may bee possible
that we will bee ordered to leave
here the last of next week I
cant tell when we will leave here

but I want you to rite to
as soone as you get thiss letter
iff you pleas direct your letter
to Lafayett Camp Tippecanoe
and iff I leave here it will bee
forwarded to where eves I go
No more at present
but still remain your friend
untill death

Yours Truley
S.S.S.
To R.C.R

I will Just say that you may
look for my picture as soon as we
get our uniform we have our arms
all ready then I want you to
have your picture ready and
send it to me as soon as you get
my pictures
I have spoke about getting your
picture before but I will not ask
for it any more untill I send you

mine pleas excuse my
por riting for I haf too rite
on a chipß and in a big hury
the boys is acalling me to
supper Good by
for thiss time

pleas rite soon

I do not no [illegible]
stay

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